



# Adult Education in Greenlee County

## Fiscal Year 2002

**A**dult Education is the delivery of literacy services to people 16 years of age and older who are not enrolled in a K-12 school. It includes:

- **Adult Basic Education:** instruction in reading, writing, and math to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- **Adult Secondary Education:** instruction in reading, writing, math, science and social studies; may lead to the attainment of an alternative high school diploma
- **English for Speakers of Other Languages**
- **Citizenship Test Preparation**

### The Need for Adult Education In Greenlee County

In Greenlee County, **1602\*** out-of-school adults do not have a high school diploma or GED; **246\*** adults cannot communicate effectively in the English language. In Arizona, only providers who meet rigorous standards and produce positive student outcomes are funded. **Eastern Arizona College - Thatcher** is the program certified to provide adult education throughout Greenlee County.

\*Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000; Federal Adult Literacy Estimates, 1996

Adult Education dollars allocated by the Arizona Department of Education to Greenlee County in FY2002:

<b>Federal dollars:</b>	<b>\$3,113</b>
<b>State dollars:</b>	<b>\$3,113</b>

### Greenlee County Adult Education Data for Fiscal Year 2002

- **20 adults enrolled in Adult Education classes**
- **860 instructional hours were provided in Adult Education classes**
- **\$7.24 was the total cost per instructional hour for Adult Education**
- **\$311.30 was the total annual cost per Adult Education student** (compared to over \$5,000 per K – 12 student)
- **16 of 20 students (80%) improved more than two grade levels**
- **3 of 4 students (75%) who sought a GED obtained their high school equivalency diploma**
- **1 of 1 students (100%) who sought a job found employment**
- **4 of 5 students (80%) who sought to retain their job or improve their employment were successful**
- **1 of 1 students (100%) who wanted to enter post-secondary education or training went on to further education**

## GED Testing in Greenlee County

### What is the GED and why is it important to our community?

The General Educational Development (GED) Test is a five-part, seven-hour exam in reading, writing, science, social studies, and mathematics. Across the nation, one-third of graduating seniors receiving traditional diplomas cannot pass the GED. Research has shown that compared to students with no diploma, students with a GED experience significant improvement in income level and are more likely to become involved in the educational experience of their children.

**More than 15,000 students in Arizona take the GED Test annually.** There is no Federal or State allocation to fund the processing of GED diplomas or transcripts. The cost of these vital unfunded mandates is taken from the adult education allocation.

**There is no GED Testing Center in Greenlee County.** Adult students from Greenlee County usually take the GED test at Eastern Arizona College – Thatcher Campus in Graham County. 173 High School Equivalency Diplomas were issued from that testing center.